

WARD 7

FALL 2019 RESISTAT

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

Katjana Ballantyne
City Council President & Ward 7 Councilor



Agenda

- **Quick Updates**

- Taylor Ko, ResiStat Coordinator

- **Somerville Fire Department**

- Chief Charles Breen

- **Thinking Outside the Big Box**

- Mayor Joe Curtatone

- **Mobility: Traffic Calming & Street Safety**

- Brad Rawson, Director of Mobility

- **Somerville Police Department**

- Chief David Fallon

- **Recent Flooding**

- Rich Raiche, Director of Infrastructure & Asset Management

We Want to Hear Your Feedback



SOMERVISION2040

Sustainability • Opportunity • Connectivity • Community • Diversity

Topic chapters are now available for **public review** until November 1, 2019

Submit feedback at somerville.civiccomment.org/somervision or email planning@somervillema.gov.



Facebook.com/SomervilleNeighborhoodUpdates



Twitter.com/SomerUpdates

More information: **somervision2040.com**

SomerBaby



- A universal, free, multilingual home visiting program for families with new babies from birth to one year old
- Designed to give Somerville's newest residents – our newborns – the best start in life by providing a *Welcome Baby Bag* with resources and a few gifts
- A SomerBaby home visitor can help you make connections to resources to support your family, healthy child development, and school readiness!







To schedule a visit, please contact:

| Name | Language | Phone | Email |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Flor Apolaya | Spanish/English | 617-625-6600 x6702 | fapolaya@k12.somerville.ma.us |
| Maria Holz | Portuguese/English | 617-625-6600 x2345 | mholz@somervillema.gov |
| Rachel Wilensky | English | 617-625-6600 x2344 | rwilensky@somervillema.gov |

Or sign up online at: <http://somerville.k12.ma.us/somerbaby>

Somerville Prenatal to 3 Year Old Programs

***Free, Multilingual** Early Childhood programs and resources for new parents and families:*

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Program | Spanish Language Prenatal Class | SomerBaby Home Visiting Program | Parent Child + Literacy Home Visiting Program | Discover & Learn Playgroups | Parent & Guardian Support Groups | Resources and Referrals |
| Contact | Flor Apolya fapolya@k12.Somerville.ma.us 617-625-6600 x6702 | Rachel Wilensky rwilensky@somervillema.gov 617-625-6600 x2344 | Fernanda Villar fvillar@k12.Somerville.ma.us 617-625-6600 x6992 | Michelle Laskey sfn@k12.Somerville.ma.us 617-625-6600 x6990 | Michelle Laskey sfn@k12.Somerville.ma.us 617-625-6600 x6990 | Nomi Davidson ndavidson@k12.Somerville.ma.us 617-625-6600 x6966 |
| Families Served | First class in November! | 281 Families to date | 51 Families 14 Family Child Care Providers For 2019 | ~210 Families 14 Playgroups in Session 1 | ~43 Families 3 Groups in Session 1 | 1,419 Referrals 2018-2019 |

Lead Service Line Replacement Program

- Check to see if your residence has a water service line made of lead?
→ sommervillema.gov/LeadServices
- Have your property's lead or non-copper water service line replaced, **free of charge**
- Applications due by December 2019 to be considered for replacement starting Spring 2020

More information on the website above
or call the Engineering Dept. at
617-625-6600 Ext. 5400



Rethinking Reusable/Recyclable Materials

Regional and global changes mean we must be very careful about **contamination**

Do Recycle:

- Clean metal, glass, rigid plastic, and paper containers
- Clean paper and cardboard

Do NOT Recycle:

- Plastic bags
- Plastic wrap or film
- Anything with food on it

Somervillema.gov/Wizard

RecycleSmartMA.org/FAQ

Not sure how to dispose of something?



Enter the item name in the Somerville Waste Wizard below to find out.

Waste Wizard

English

Share

My Schedule

Waste Wizard

Need help?

Type the name of an item and we'll tell you how to recycle or dispose of it.

Search

Privacy

Terms of Service

Cookie Policy

Powder House School Project



October 21, 2019

Groundbreaking

sommervillema.gov/phcspark

WSNS School Yard



Hoping to have the next community meeting in November.

For more information, contact Arn Franzen

Afranzen@somervillema.gov

Dilboy Field and Stadium





Clarendon Hill Housing

www.clarendonhill.org



Community meeting: Somerville-Tufts Partnership Agreement

Wednesday, October 30 – 7 p.m.

Tufts Administration Building (TAB), 167 Holland Street

somervillema.gov/TuftsPILOT

Green Line Extension Updates

- Project is on schedule to be open by end of 2021
- **Bridge Closure Updates:**
 - Broadway bridge on track to reopen March 2020
 - Washington St. bridge now expected throughout the winter but will reopen April 2020 instead of Fall 2020
 - Medford St. bridge – Will reopen late spring 2020
 - School St. bridge expected to close early spring 2020
- **Next public meeting:** November 2019

We Remain Vigilant Regarding Traffic Management

- An interdepartmental team to coordinate with state partners
 - Fire, Police, Mobility, Engineering, Traffic and Parking, Communications and other staff

Three pronged approach

1. Advance planning
2. Daily monitoring
3. Rapid response

- **Reboot Your Commute campaign with the GLX team**
- **96** neighboring cities and town, **84** media outlets, **29** medical facilities, **26** colleges, and large employers in the area

If you have concerns regarding traffic or detours, please continue to report them to **311** or to **construction@somervillema.gov**

Stay Informed



- **MassDOT GLX Updates**
 - mass.gov/GLX
- **City of Somerville Construction Resources**
 - Newsletter: somervillema.gov/ConstructionNewsletter
 - Website: somervillema.gov/Construction
- **City Alerts**
 - somervillema.gov/alerts
- **City Newsletter**
 - somervillema.gov/Enews

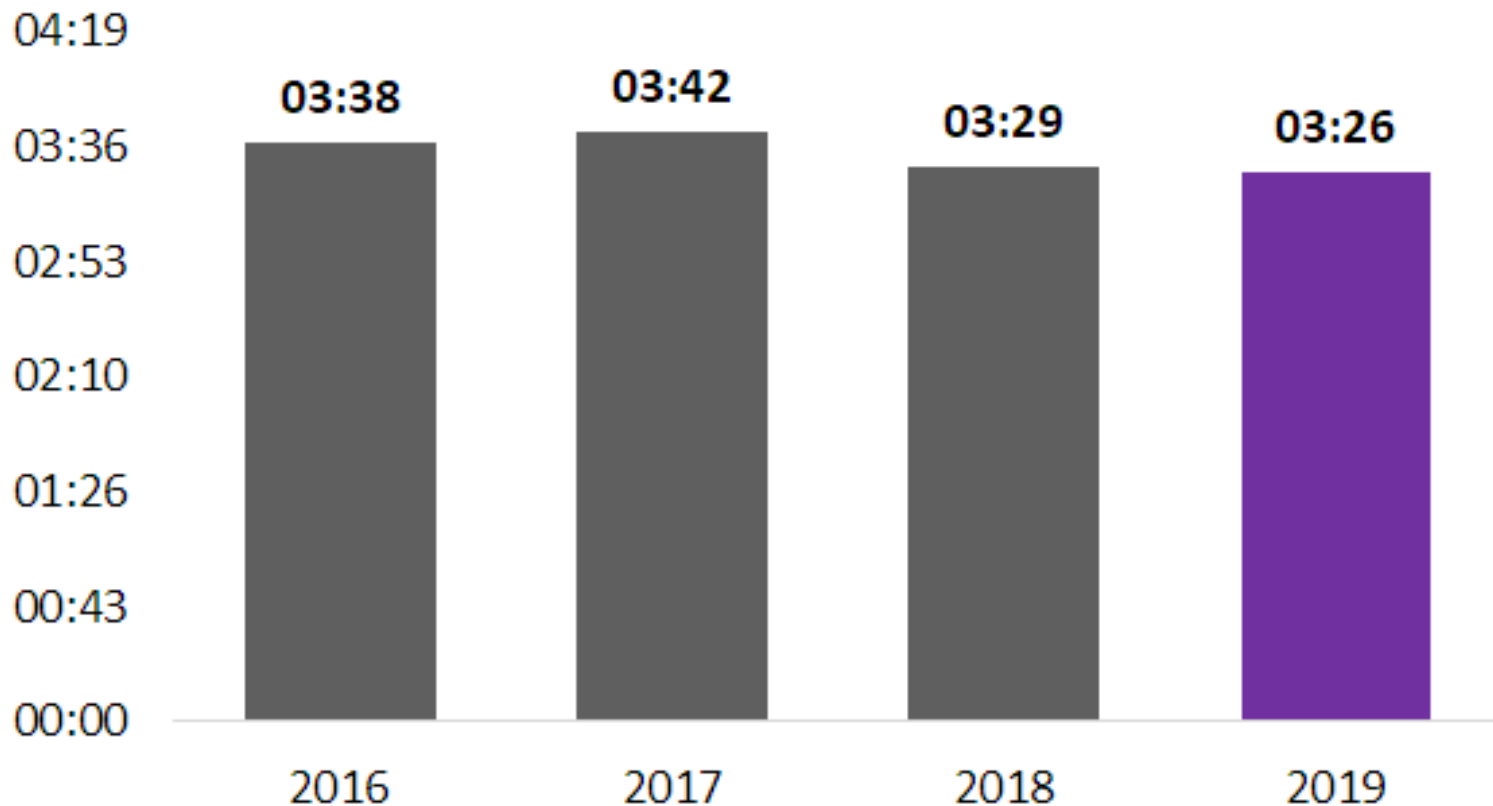
SOMERVILLE FIRE DEPT. RESPONSE TIMES & CAREER OPPORTUNITIES



Chief Charles Breen

Response Times Through Construction

Avg. Citywide SFD Emergency Response Time:
Construction Period (April through September)





Saturday, November 16
10 a.m. to Noon



Career Open House

Somerville Fire Department Headquarters
266 Broadway

Want to Learn More?

Contact the Somerville Personnel Dept. at **617-625-6600 x3300**

Or Email Talent Acquisition Manager, Jennifer Mancia at **Jdutra@somervillema.gov**

somervillema.gov/BecomeAFirefighter

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone



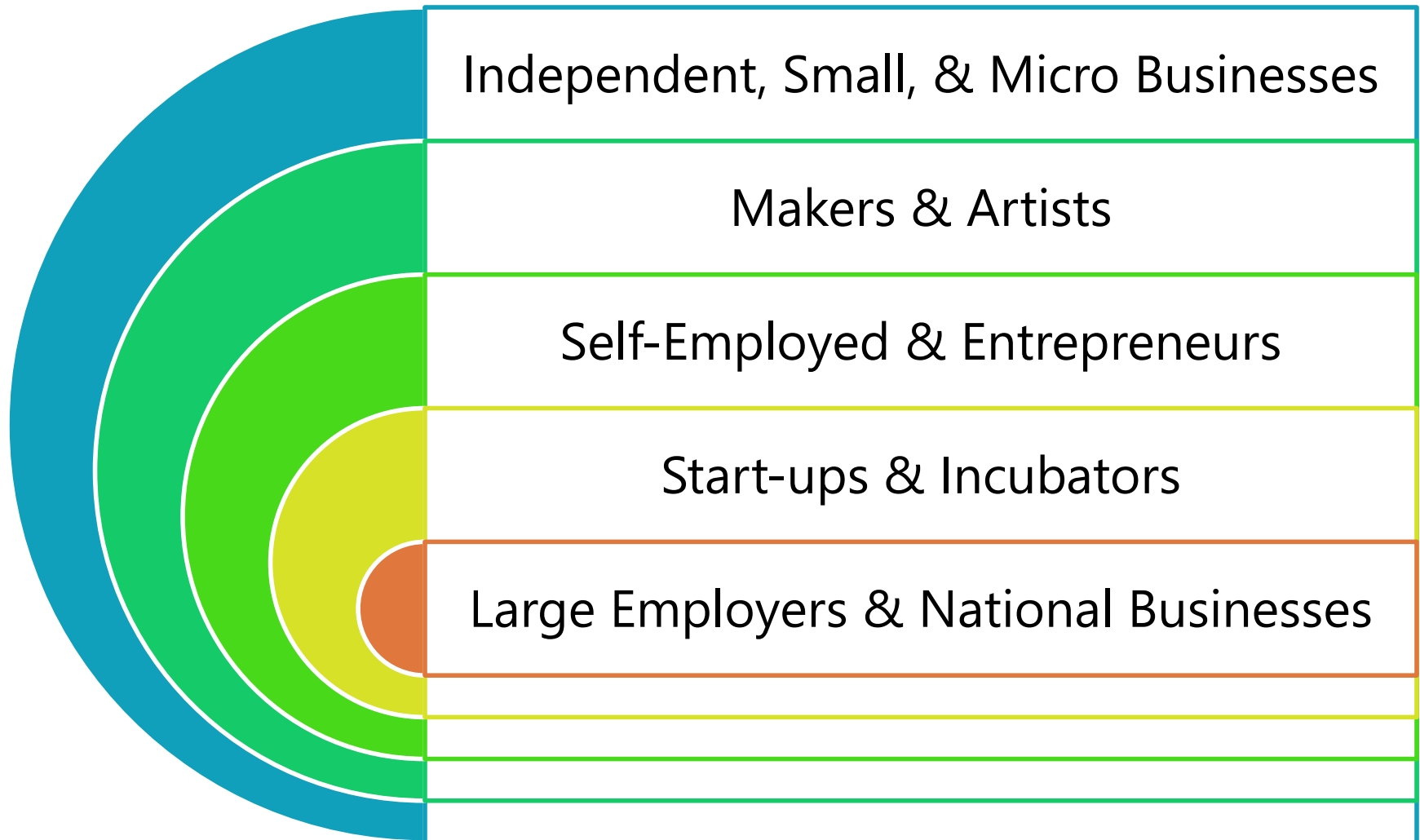
Thinking Outside the Big Box

Helping our Alternative Economies and
Small Business Community

Adapt & Thrive in a Changing World

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

Diversity of Our Local Economy



Our Economic
Diversity
Defines Us,
Supports Our
Community
Goals, and
Builds Our
Unique
Quality of Life



Walkability

Sustainability



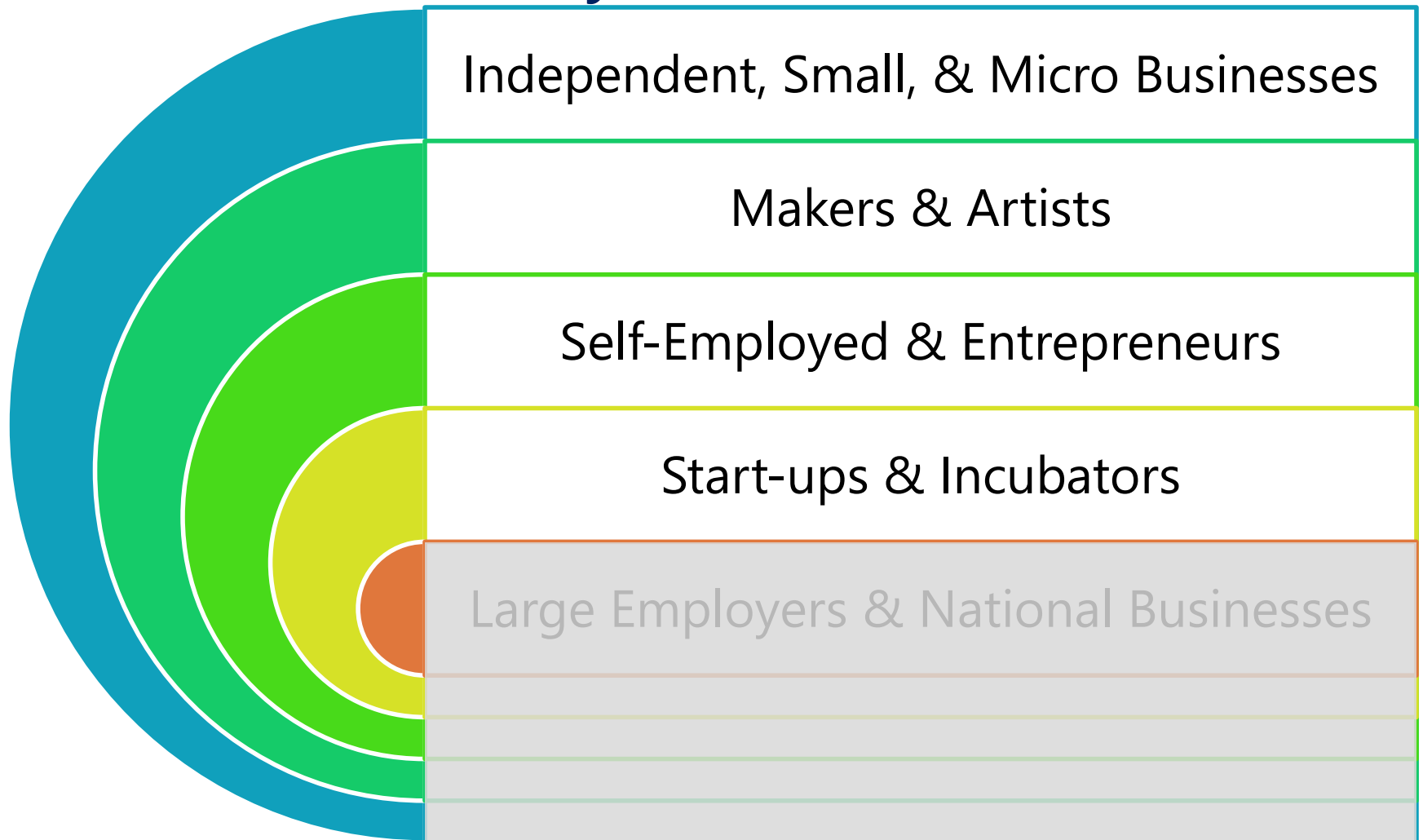
Diversity

Community



Jobs

Focusing on our Alternative & Small Business Economy



How does this
impact you?

A few examples...

Our Local Economy Supports Sustainability

1/3 of Somerville's green house gas emissions come from transportation, with nearly **60%** of that coming from passenger vehicles.

If we want to reduce GHG emissions from transportation we need to:

Shift trips
away from
cars



Have
nearby
shops and
amenities
that make it
easier to
not drive



Have small
businesses
in squares
and
neighborhoods
across the
city




Support
work
models that
require less
commuting

Our Local Economy Helps Affordability

Residential taxes are among the drivers of affordability.

If we want to keep residential tax rates low while maintaining services, we need to:

**Shift more of
taxes from of
residential to
commercial**



```
graph LR; A[Shift more of taxes from of residential to commercial] --> B[Commercial taxes, meals taxes, and sales taxes help offset residential taxes]; B --> C[Help small businesses thrive and welcome new ones so those funds increase];
```

**Commercial
taxes, meals
taxes, and sales
taxes help offset
residential taxes**

**Help small
businesses thrive
and welcome
new ones so
those funds
increase**

Our Local Economy Enhances Our Quality of Life

- Our Happiness Survey showed correlations between residents' overall happiness and factors like availability of cultural events, the physical setting of their neighborhood, and happiness with their neighborhood.

If we want residents to be happy living in Somerville we need to:

**Have vibrant
neighborhoods
and squares**

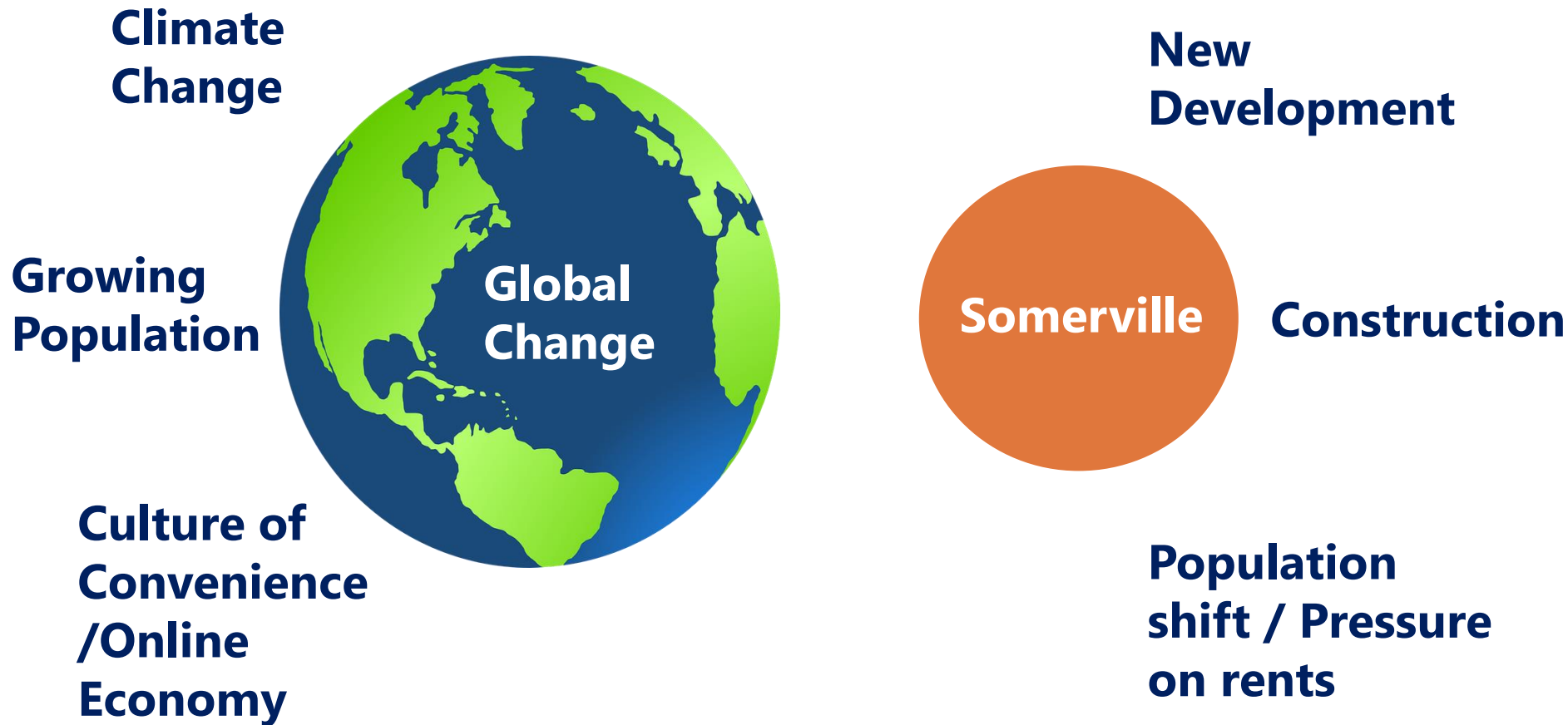


```
graph LR; A[Have vibrant neighborhoods and squares] --> B[Mobility improvements, density, and cultural events bring people in]; B --> C[Local businesses provide services, amenities, and sense of community];
```

**Mobility
improvements,
density, and
cultural events
bring people in**

**Local businesses
provide services,
amenities, and
sense of
community**

We Are All Experiencing Local & Global Change



How Do We Adapt and Approach these Challenges with Flexibility?

At the Same Time, Our Local, Independent Businesses Face Many Challenges:



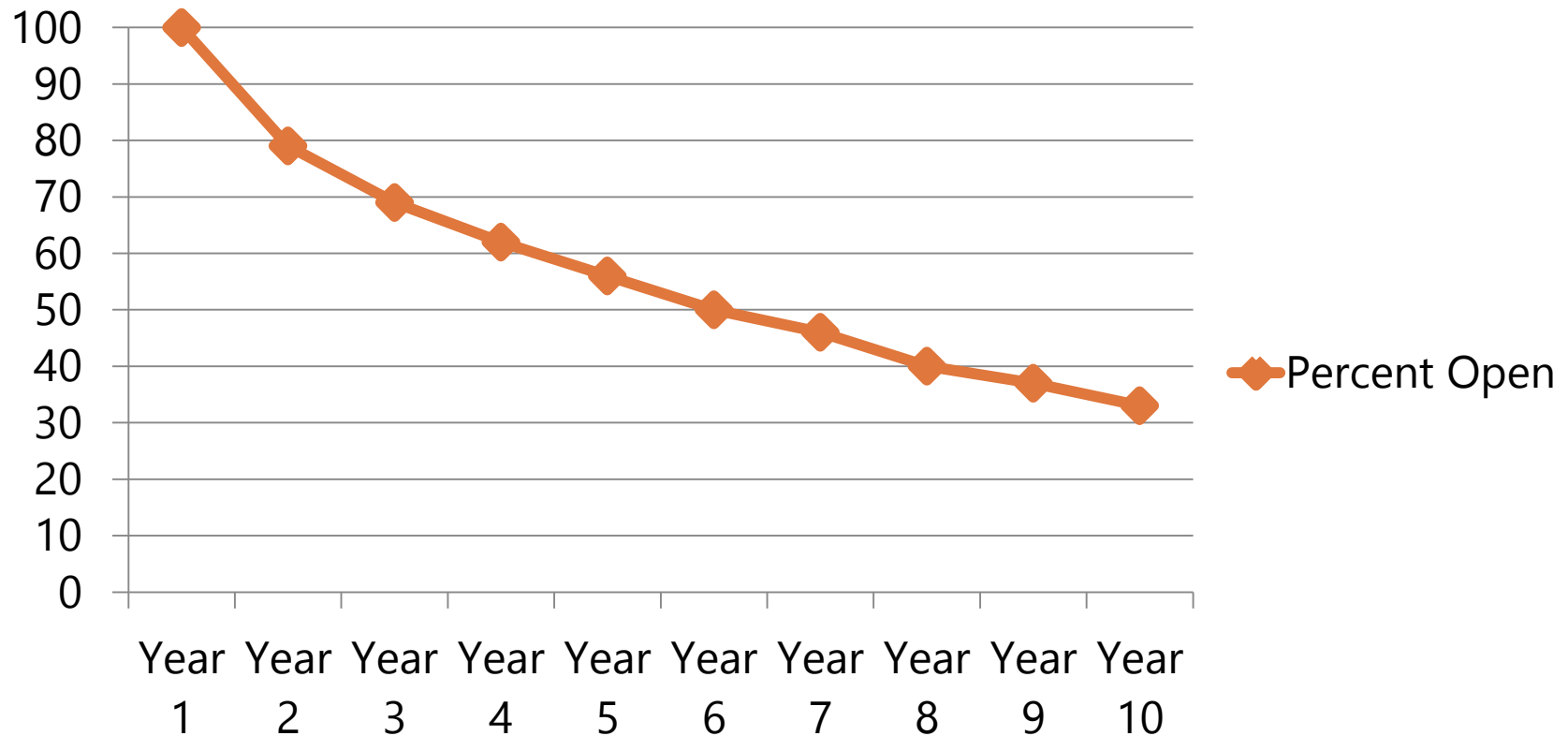
**Survival
Now**

**Resiliency
& Adaptability**

**Stronger
Future**

Half of Small Business Fail Within 5 Years, Two-Thirds Fail Within 10

**Percent of Small Businesses Remaining Open
During First 10 Years**



The old model of economic development wasn't addressing current challenges that small, micro, alternative, and start-up businesses face, so the City began thinking creatively about how to address modern economic development needs.

Alternative Economic Development in Action

Connecting Customers and Small, Local
Businesses

Supporting our creative economy

Economic Development through the Arts

For every **\$1** we spend, we see **\$4.40** in economic impacts

Direct Impact

- Money artists and vendors earn at events
- Money spent on supplies and promotion of events

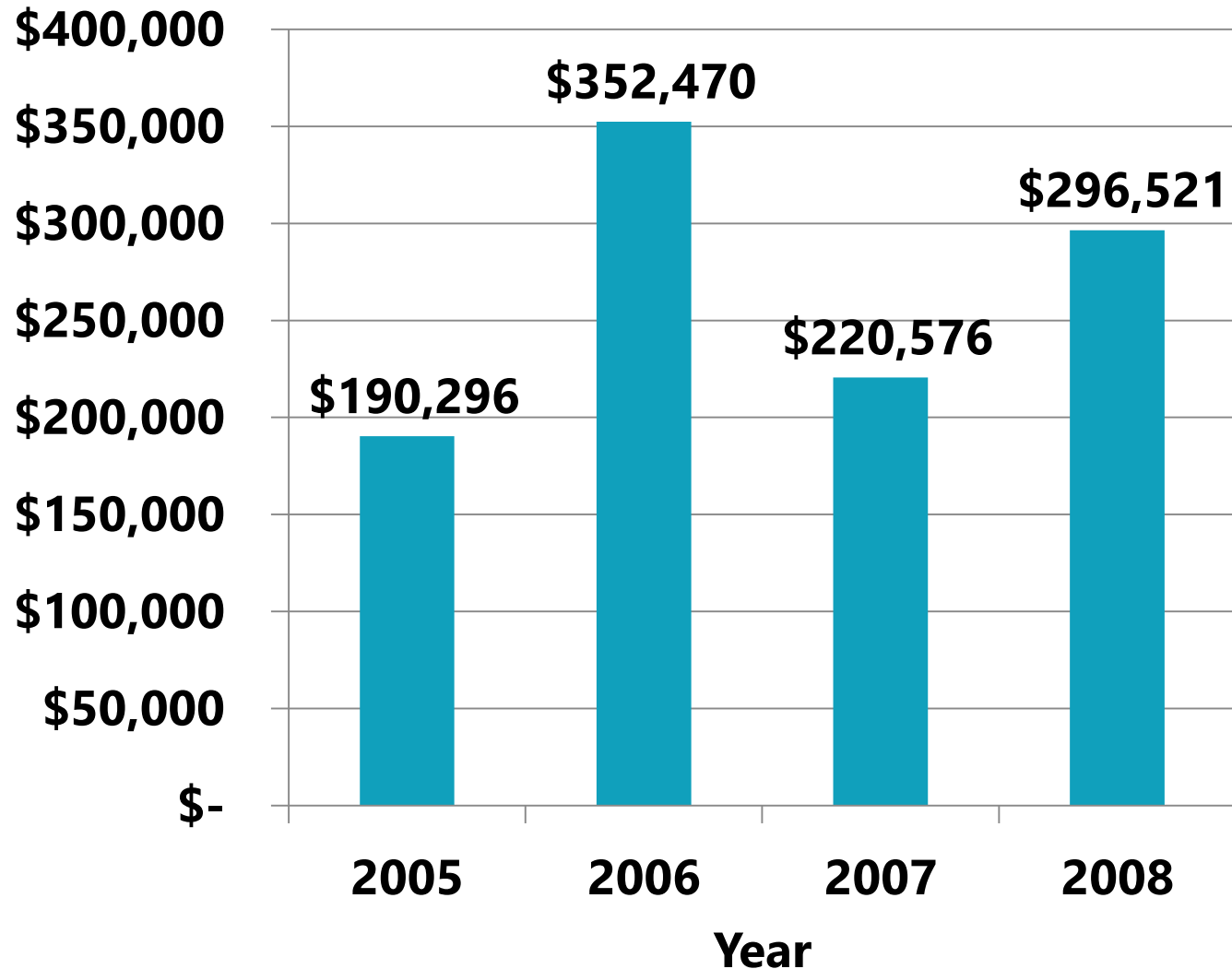
Indirect Impact

- Attendees patronizing nearby local businesses
- Placemaking brings people back to our businesses

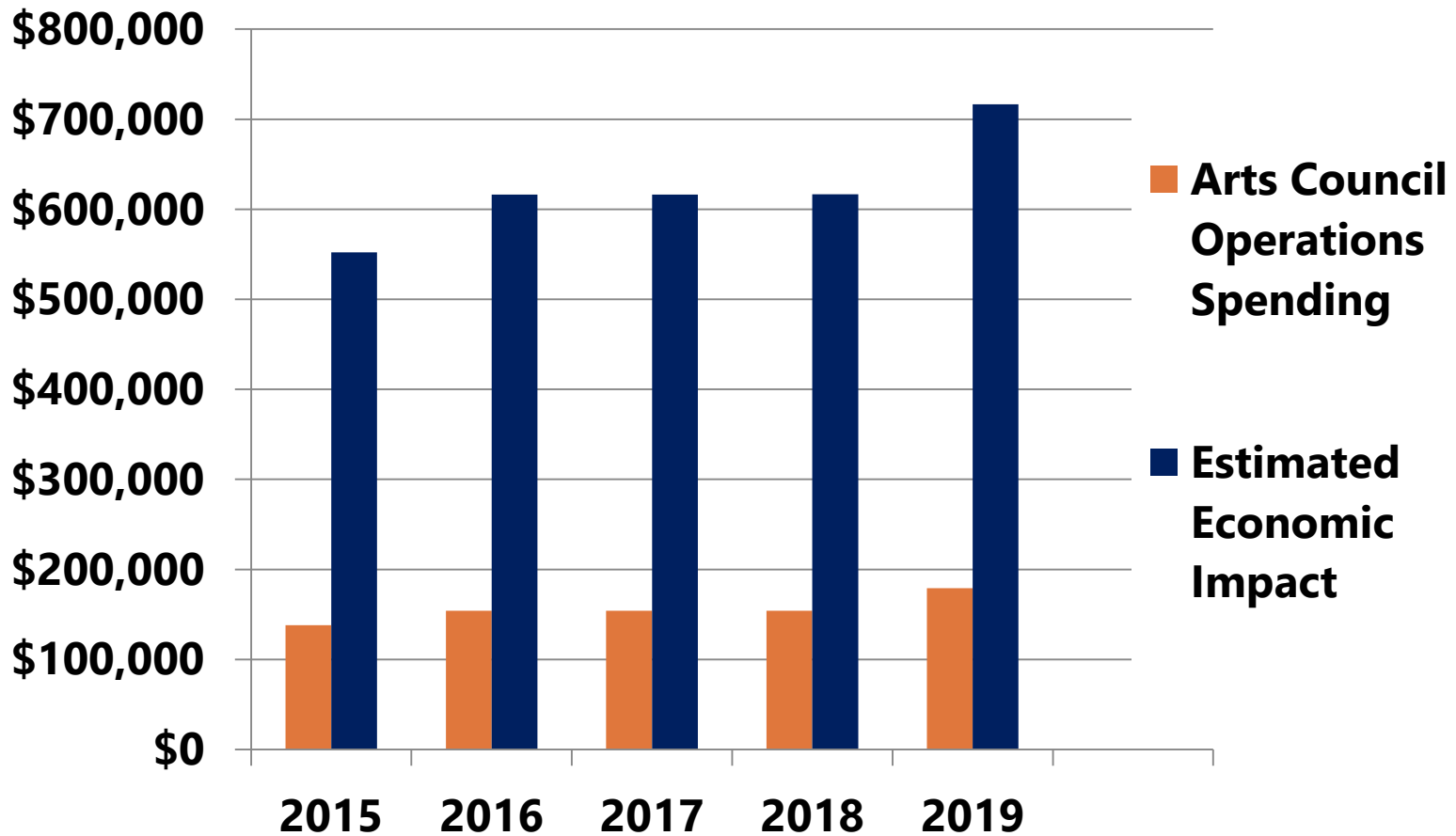


Economic Development through the Arts

Economic Impacts of ArtsUnion



Arts Council Estimated Economic Impact: Approximately \$3M Over 5 Years



Conservatively estimates 4, not 4.4 times operational spending for economic impact and excludes grant funds expended, which would add additional impacts.

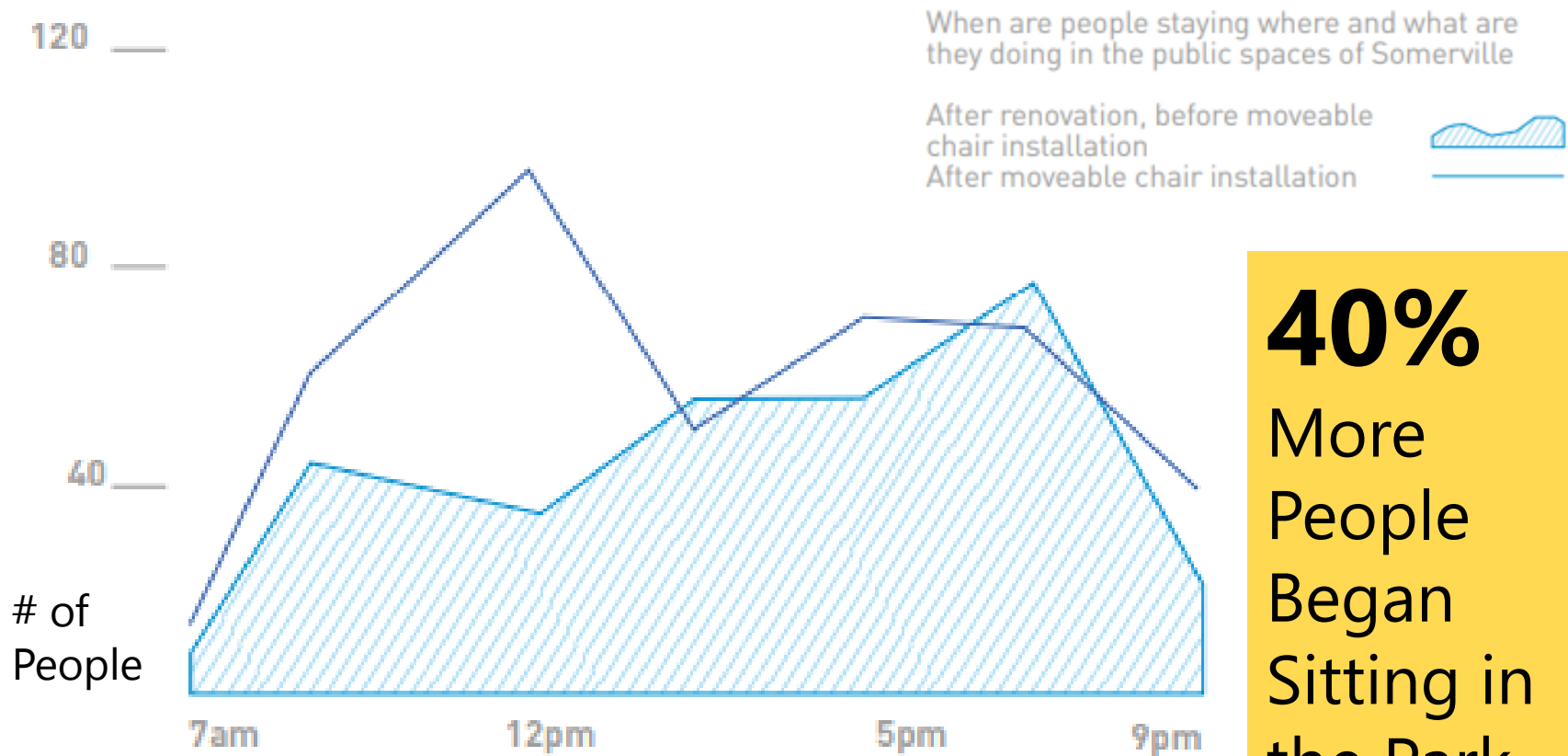
Placemaking

People stick around in places they feel comfortable.

- Activity
- Outdoor furniture
- Parks and other open spaces
- Special events



Placemaking – Furniture & water feature in Kenney Park



40%
More
People
Began
Sitting in
the Park

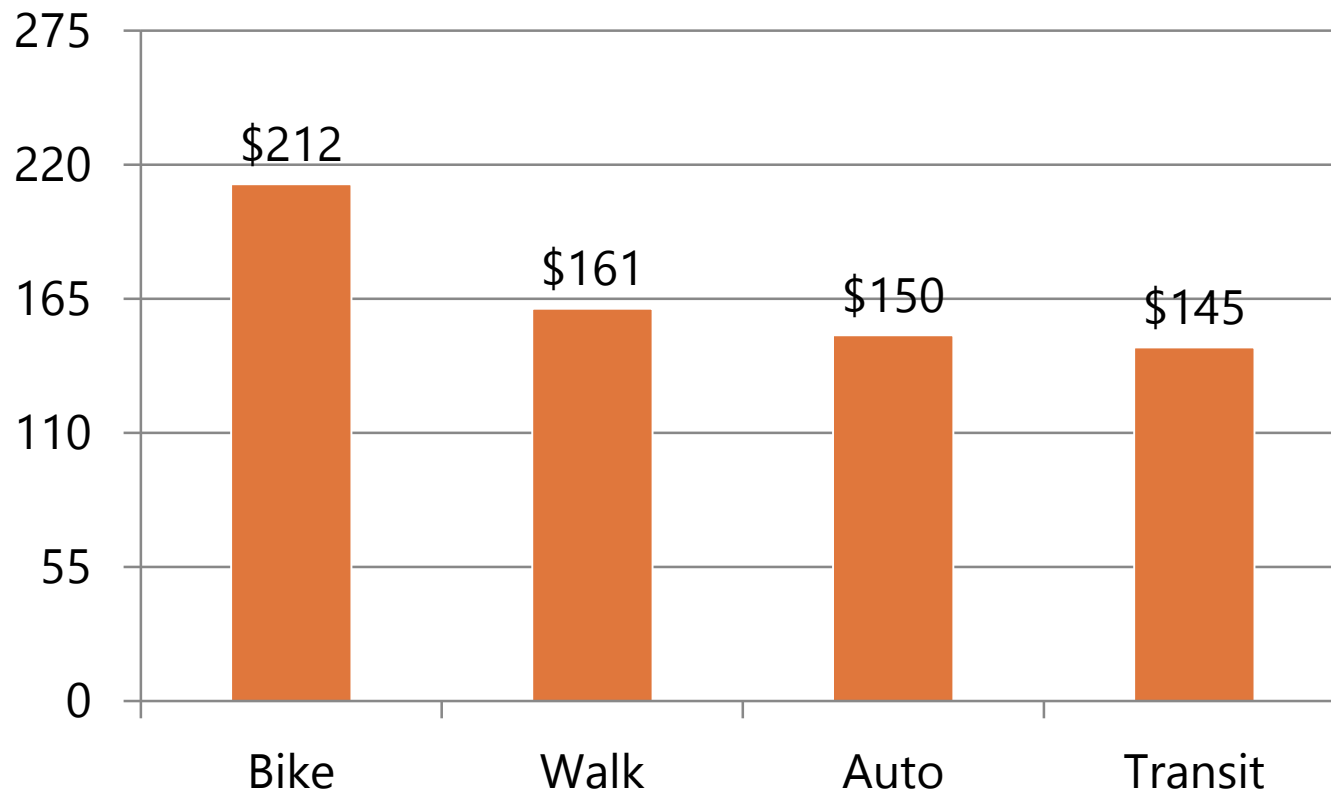
Investing in Mobility is Investment in Local Business



Studies have found that when communities improve pedestrian and cycling infrastructure they gain net new businesses and private investment increases.

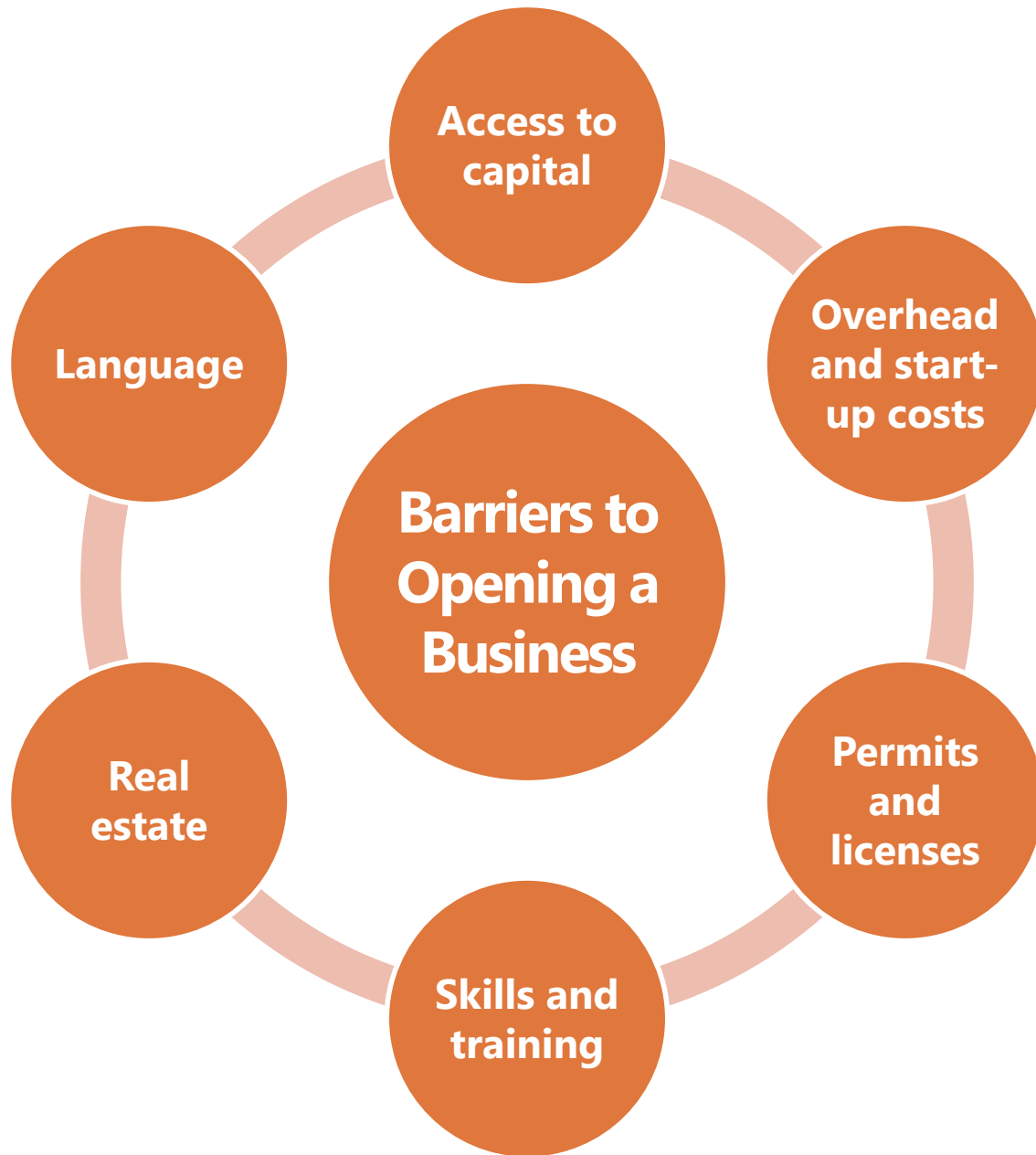
Spending per Month by Travel Mode

Portland, OR, Study: Monthly spending on convenience stores, bars, restaurants



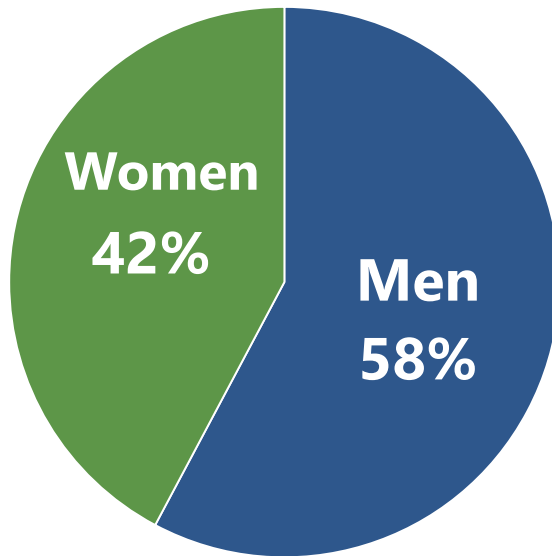
Economic Development in Action

Lowering the Barriers to Entry

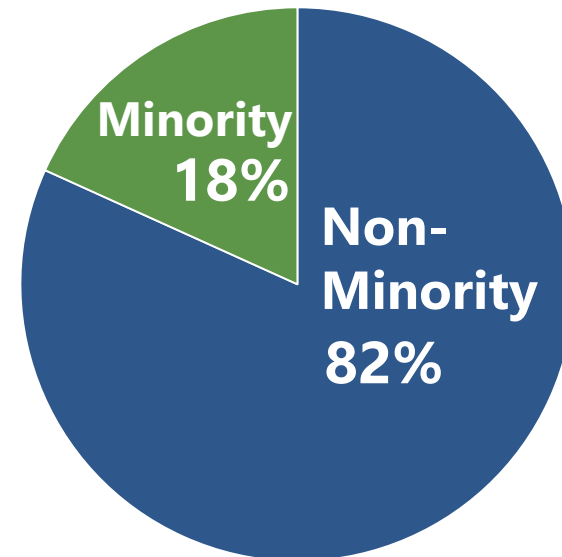


Greater Equity Needed in Somerville Business Ownership

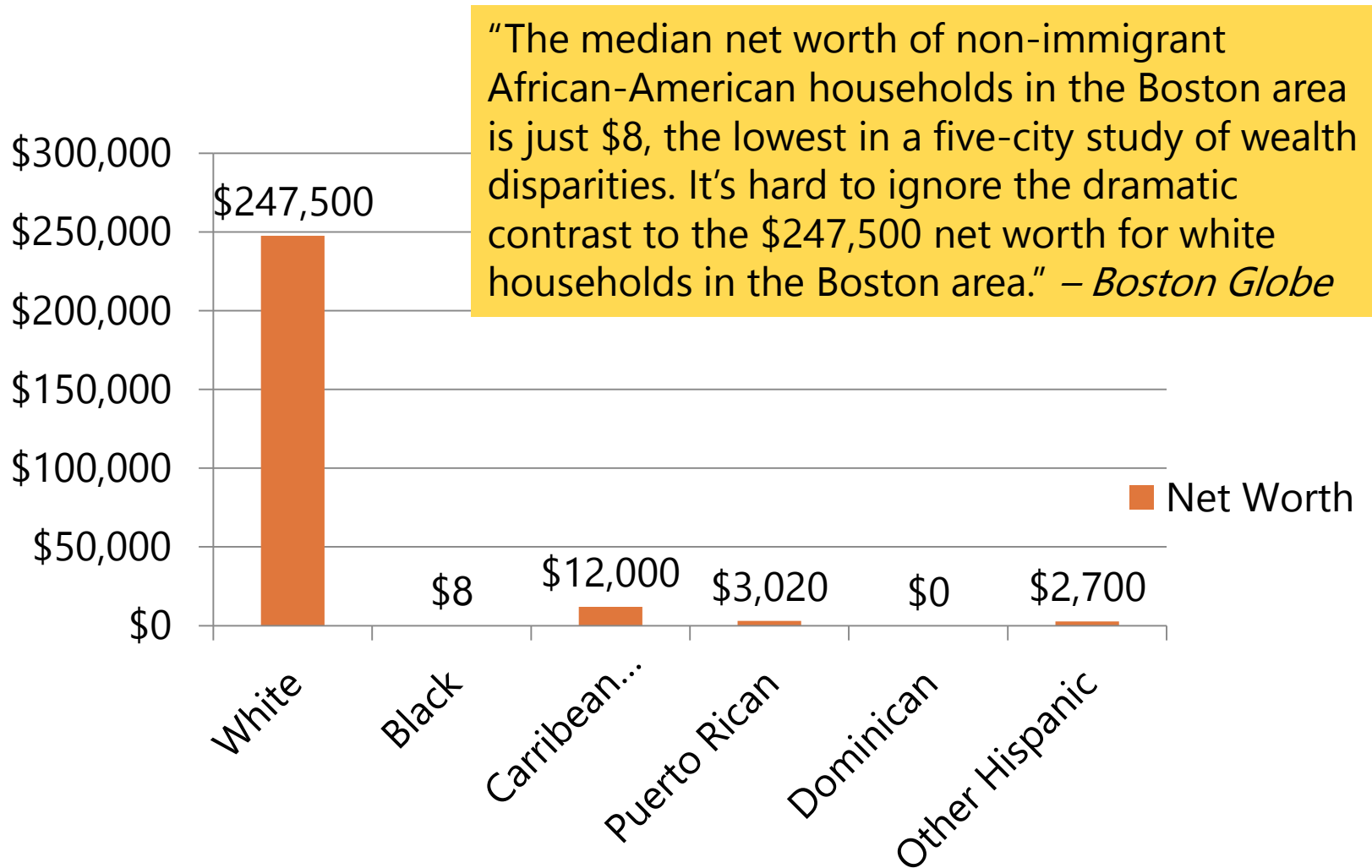
**Men-Owned vs.
Women-Owned**



**Minority-Owned vs.
Non-Minority-Owned**



Boston Data on Racial Wealth Gap



Opening Doors & Minds

Nibble
Global Eats by Local Peeps

Supporting **Diversity**

- **Immigrants are twice as likely to open a business**, often in the food industry
- **More than 40%** of food business owners in Union Square are immigrants
- Nibble: Representing **13 countries** including Venezuela, India, Mexico, Colombia, Somalia, Panama, Ethiopia

Supporting **Equity**

- Help with permitting and certifications
- Multilingual services
- Lower start-up cost and overhead
- ADA Commercial Kitchen

Two new restaurants:

Las Carolinas and Nibble Kitchen



Regulations for Today's Reality



- **New Public Liquor Licenses**

- Existing businesses can increase the profit by ~20%
- Lowering the cost to enter the restaurant industry
- \$3,500-\$5,000 per license (with annual fees of \$2,000-\$3,500) vs. upwards of \$100k in Somerville and more than \$400k in Boston



- **Food Trucks**

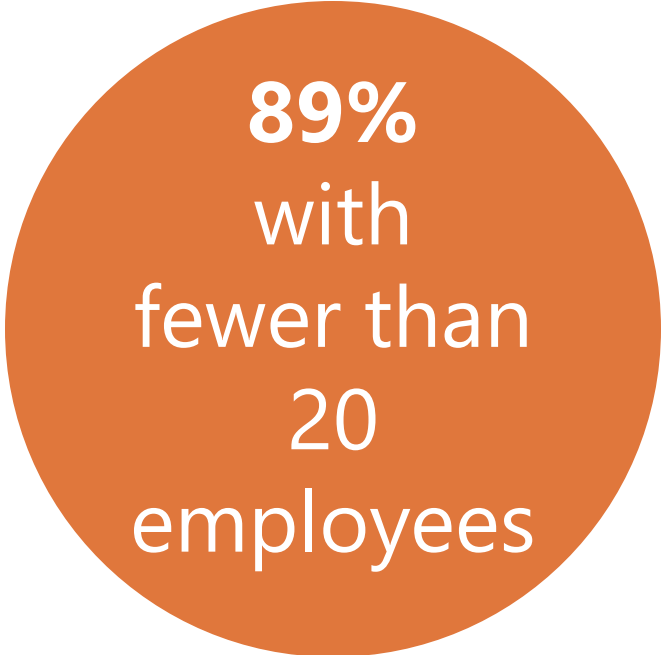
- Flexibility
- Lower upfront costs
- Avoid challenge of real estate

Economic Development in Action

Adapting to New Ways of Working

Alternative Work Spaces & Room to Grow

- In 2016 there were **5.6 million** small and micro businesses in the U.S.
- Start ups and small businesses that need office or production space may not be able to afford or need large spaces
- We need places where businesses can begin and grow

An orange circle graphic containing white text.

89%
with
fewer than
20
employees



GREENTOWNLABS

Incubator space for cleantech companies

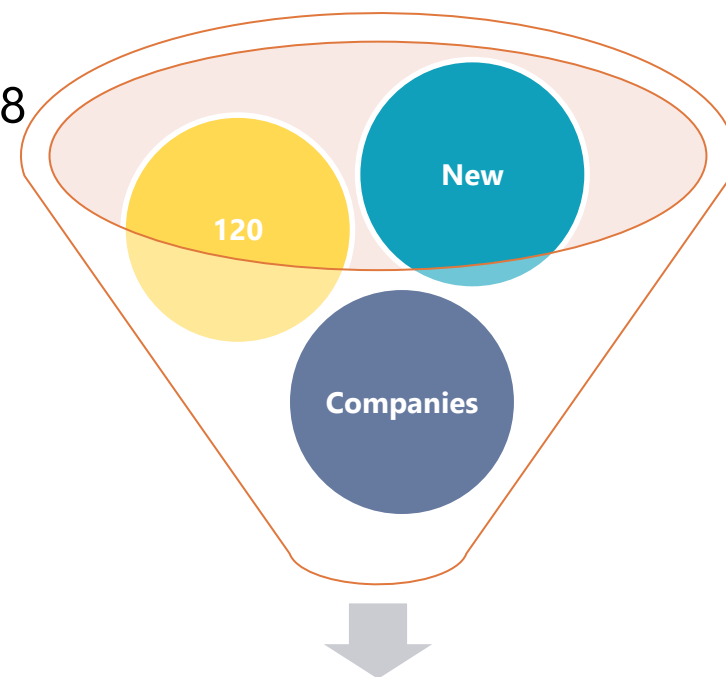
- Home to more than 120 companies
- Some have expanded and moved into their own larger spaces
- Created 900 jobs

City support

- Helped find appropriate real estate
- Supported expansion with I-Fund loan
- Opportunities for companies to partner with Somerville

Launching new larger companies within Somerville:

- RightHand Robotics
- L3
- Voxel 8



900 New Jobs

Artisan's Asylum: One of the World's Largest Maker Spaces



\$30M ESTIMATED LOCAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

- \$20M in venture capital to member companies
- \$4M in Kickstarter funding to launch member-made products
- 150 small businesses supported
- 100 jobs created
- 2,400 trained in fabrication arts each year, from jewelry to welding to 3D design

WE ARE A FABRICATION WONDERLAND



Artisan's Asylum: City Support

- City facilitated their access to a Somerville location at their founding.
- Ongoing City partnerships both with Artisan's and with their members
- Donated SHS machining equipment after State grant provided schools with new equipment
- Zoning Overhaul would establish their current location as a permanent fabrication district.



**75%-80% are
women-
and/or
minority-
owned**



**Entrepreneur
Network**

**Co-working
spaces**

**Artist and
making
zoning**

**Supporting
other ways
of working**

**Economic
Development
programs that
include
entrepreneurs**

**Changed
regulations
for home-
based
businesses**

**Programs:
Small Business
Support and
One Stop
Shop**

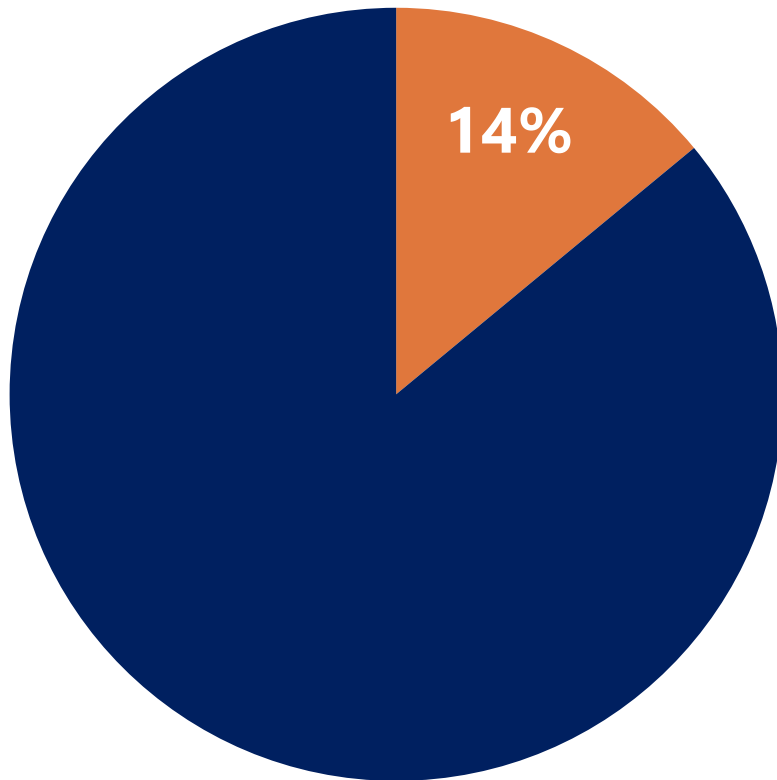


Economic Development in Action

Investing in Ourselves

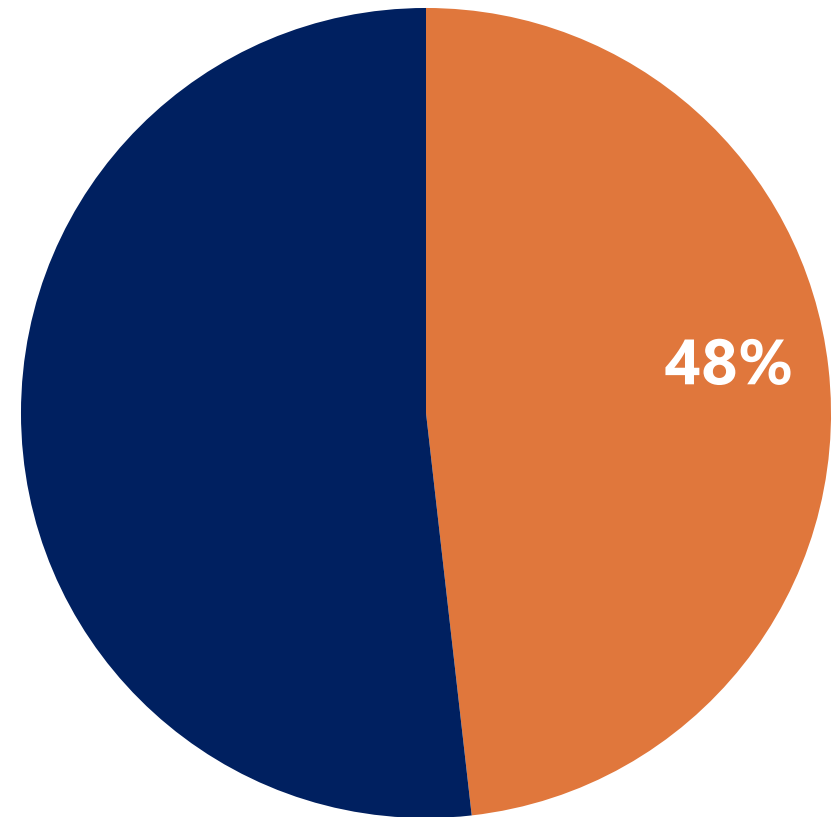
Return on Investment of Spending Locally

Chain Retailers



**Local Recirculation of
Revenue: 14%**

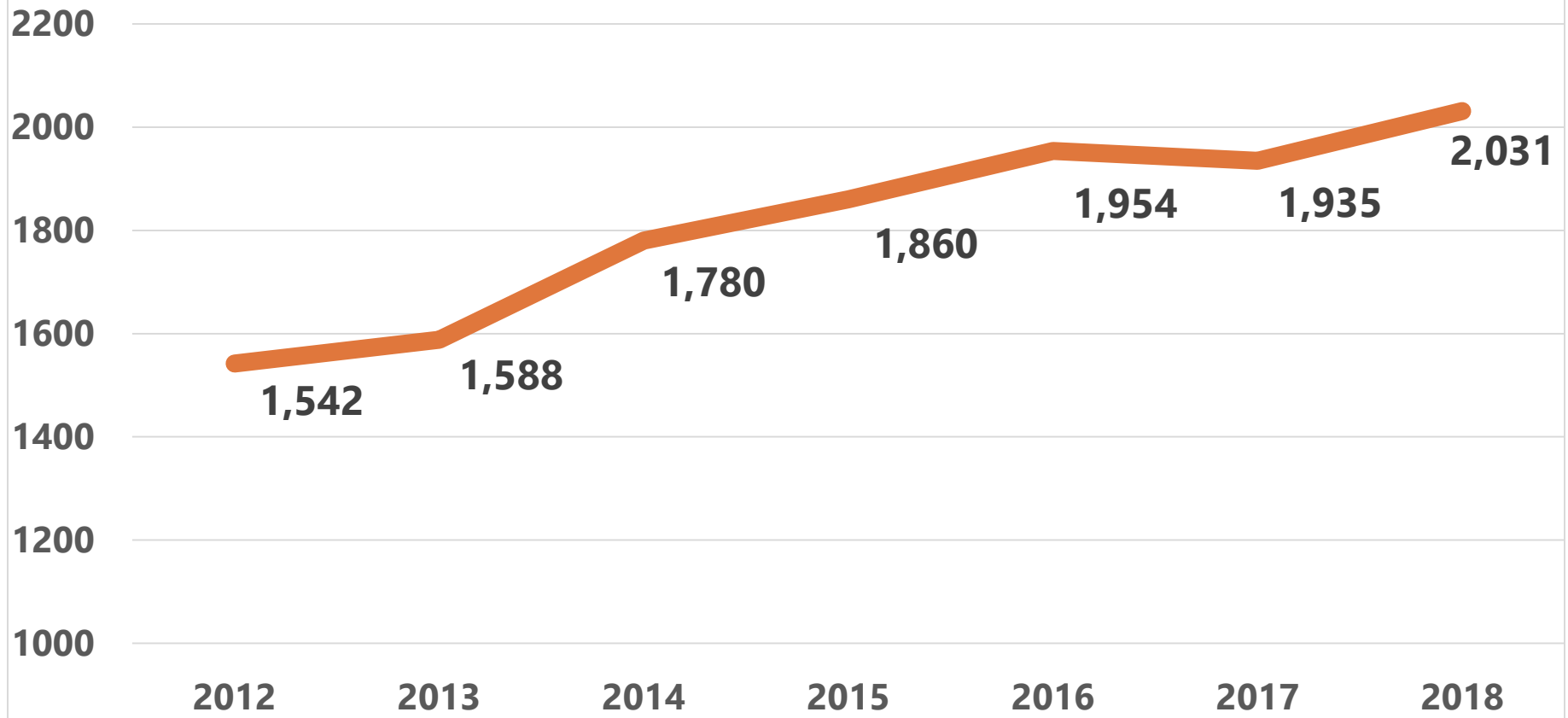
Independents



**Local Recirculation of
Revenue: 48%**

489 Net New Businesses 2012-2018

Number of Businesses in Somerville



Our Daily Choices Impact Our Future as a Community



If we enjoy the perks of having these local businesses here, it is up to us to support them.

Invest in Local Businesses,
Invest in Our Somerville

Traffic Calming & Street Safety

Brad Rawson

Director of Mobility

Traffic Calming Project: Cameron Avenue

April 2017

Baseline Data



6,300

Daily Motor Vehicles

80%

Illegal Speeding

October 2019

Narrow Travel Lanes



6,300

Daily Motor Vehicles

57%

Illegal Speeding

Traffic Calming Project: Powder House Boulevard at WSNS

April 2017

Baseline Data



10,000
Daily Motor Vehicles

70%
Illegal Speeding

March 2019

Flex-Posts Installed after Fatal Crash



10,000
Daily Motor Vehicles

40%
Illegal Speeding

October 2019

*Speed Humps
Narrow Travel Lanes
4-Way Stop*



8,300
Daily Motor Vehicles

<1%
Illegal Speeding

Traffic Calming Pilot: 4-Way Stop at Curtis & Powder House



Image: 48-hour video monitoring study
(looking north up Curtis)

City is Currently Collecting Performance Data:

- Yield compliance rate (percentage of drivers who yield to people walking)
- Speed data (percentage of drivers illegally speeding near the intersection)
- Pedestrian counts
- Vehicle queue lengths

Traffic Calming: Powder House Rotary Pilot

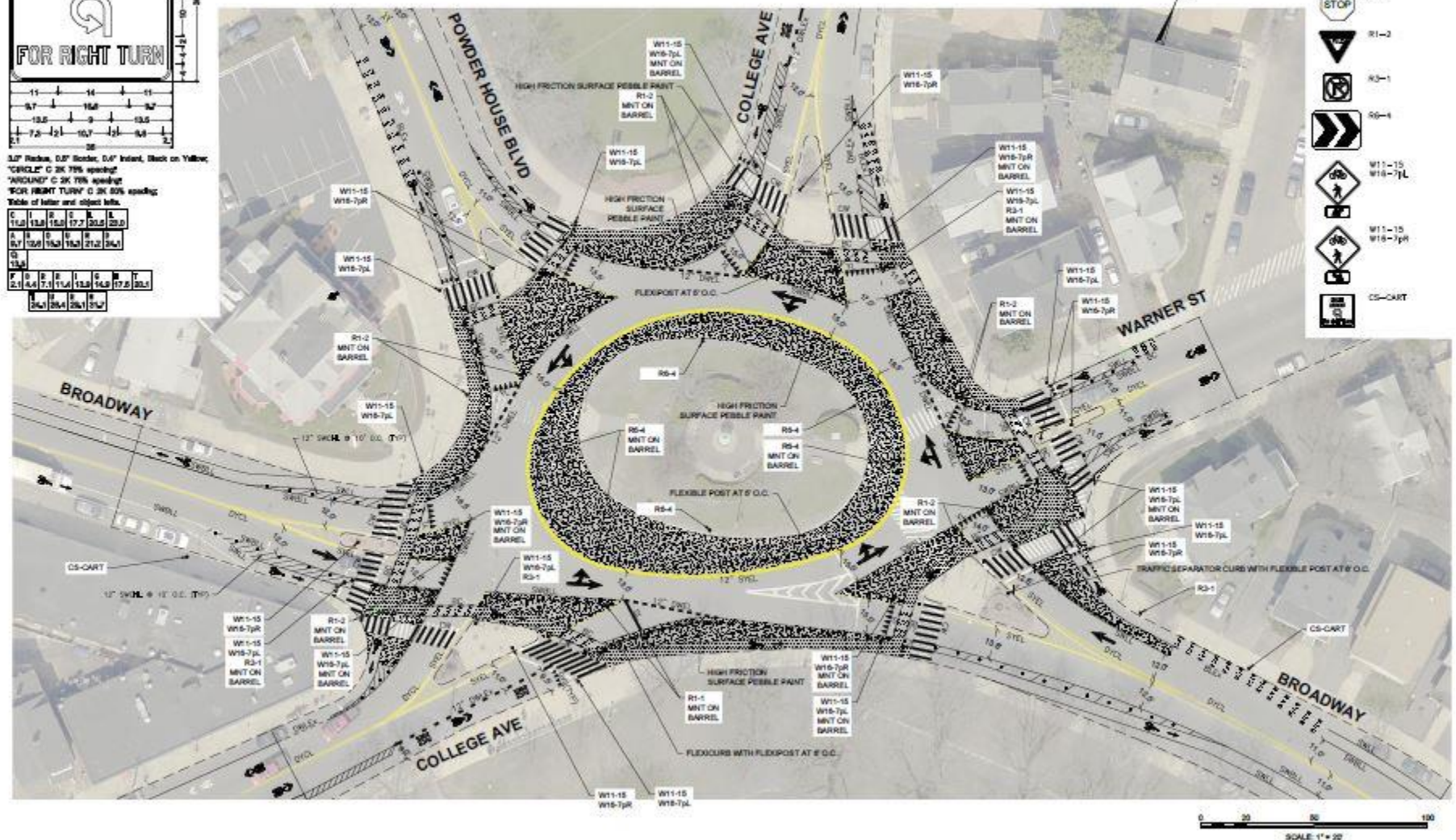
Update since Spring 2019 ResiStat: Design continues, community meetings this winter

CUSTOM SIGN—CIRCLE AROUND FOR RIGHT TURN
(CS-CART)



3/2" Radius, 0.2" Slope, 0.4" Inset, Black on Yellow;
"CIRCLE" C 2K 70% speeding
"AROUND" C 2K 70% speeding
"FOR RIGHT TURN" C 2K 80% speeding
Table of letter and object heights

| Letter | Height | Object | Height |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| C | 11.0 | 11.0 | 11.0 |
| A | 10.0 | 10.0 | 10.0 |
| B | 9.0 | 9.0 | 9.0 |
| D | 8.0 | 8.0 | 8.0 |
| E | 7.0 | 7.0 | 7.0 |
| F | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 |
| G | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| H | 4.0 | 4.0 | 4.0 |
| I | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| J | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| K | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| L | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |



SOMERVILLE
POWDER HOUSE SQUARE

| DATE | FILE NO./PROJECT NO. | DATE | FILE NO. |
|------|------------------------|------|----------|
| MA | PROJECT FILE NO. 00000 | | |

TRAFFIC SIGNS & PAVEMENT MARKINGS

- STOP R1-1
- YIELD R1-2
- ONE WAY R3-1
- RIGHT TURN ONLY R5-4
- W11-15 W18-7L MNT ON BARREL
- W11-15 W18-7L MNT ON BARREL
- W11-15 W18-7L MNT ON BARREL
- W11-15 W18-7L MNT ON BARREL
- W11-15 W18-7L MNT ON BARREL
- W11-15 W18-7L MNT ON BARREL
- CS-CART

0 20 40 60 80 100
SCALE: 1" = 20'

Powder House Boulevard Next Steps: Community Meetings Schedule Coming Soon



Image: Looking west from rotary to
Leonard / Burnham

[somerillema.gov/departments/
ospcd-transportation-and-infrastructure/powder-house-boulevard-planning](https://somerillema.gov/departments/ospcd-transportation-and-infrastructure/powder-house-boulevard-planning)

SOMERVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief David Fallon

Ward 7 Crime

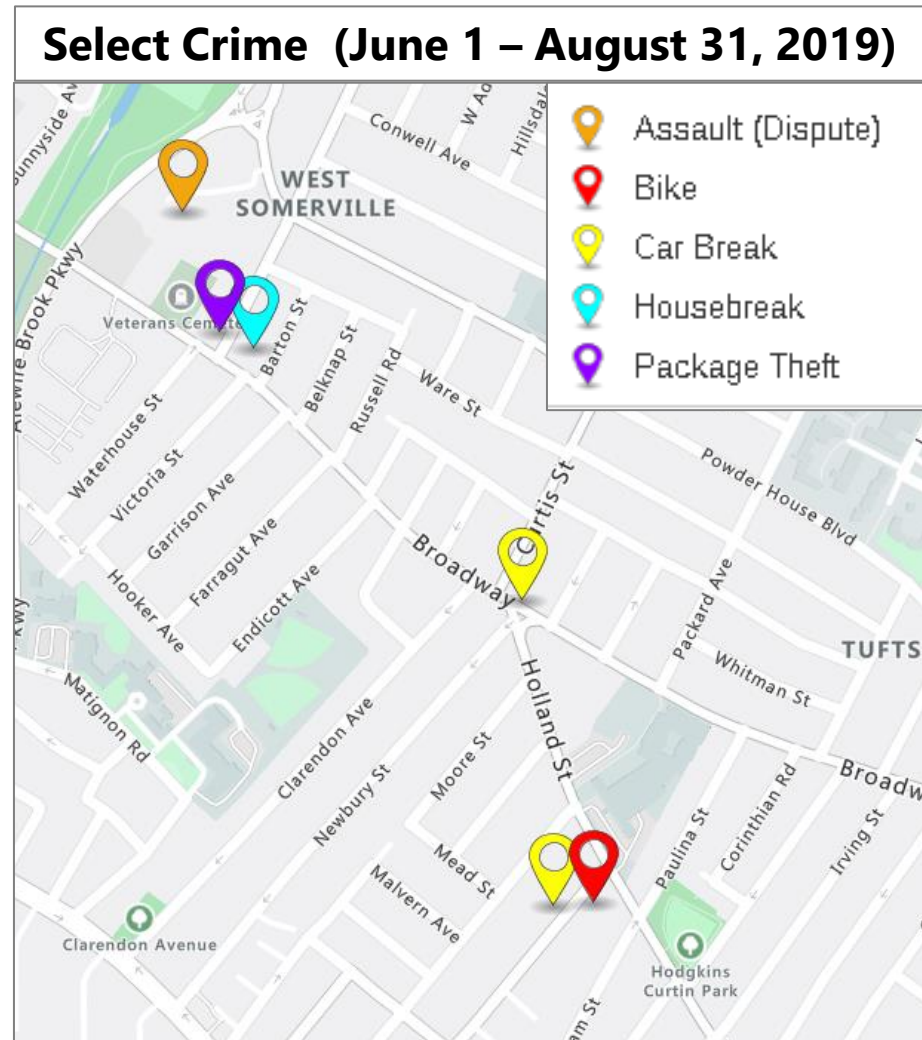
Index Crime Trends

Citywide:

- Index crime decreased 2% over one year and 3% over two.

Ward 7:

- Index crime decreased 19% over one year and 3% over two.
- Violent index crime decreased 24% over one year and 13% over two.
- However, there have small increases in select property crime such as package thefts.



Index crime statistics based on previous 12 months (9/1/18 – 8/31/19) year-over-year

Citywide Crime

Bike Theft



Residents:

- Always lock your bike to a fixed object (even if stored inside a garage or shed)
- Be wary of cable locks which are easily cut with wire cutters
- Never lock your bike to wooden posts that can be broken
- Take indoors overnight, if possible. If not, store somewhere with low street visibility (back yard, back porch, etc.) – but always locked.
- Keep a file of bike serial numbers and photos

SPD Efforts:

- Sergeant assigned to oversee bike theft investigations
- Prioritize suspect identification and bike recovery
- Analyze temporal and geographical patterns of incidents
- Neighborhood Police Officers and Area Cars deployed based on temporal patterns and hot spots
- Increase residents' awareness of crime prevention methods

Youth Engagement Successes

- **Basketball Clinic for Somerville Youth**
 - SPD Officers held a basketball clinic for youth ages 10 – 19 yo, every Tues. & Thurs., July 16 – August 29th
- **Junior Police Academy**
 - Held two one-week Academies with a total of 61 graduates, ages 11 – 14 yo
 - Activities included: District Attorney Marian Ryan presentation, National Guard fitness challenge, CPR training, Cataldo first aid presentation, K-9 presentations, team building, daily physical fitness



Accreditation

The Somerville Police Department was awarded Accreditation by the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission (MPAC) on June 4, 2019.



Accreditation is a self-initiated evaluation process by which police departments strive to meet and maintain standards that have been established for the profession, by the profession. These carefully selected standards reflect critical areas of police management, operations, and technical support activities. They cover areas such as policy development, emergency response planning, training, communications, property and evidence handling, use of force, vehicular pursuit, prisoner transportation and holding facilities. The program not only sets standards for the law enforcement profession, but also for the delivery of police services to citizens of the commonwealth.

Substance Misuse, Mental Health, Domestic Violence, and Sexual Assault Support

| | Contact | Service | Contact Info. |
|---------------------|---|--|--|
| Substance Misuse | MA Substance Use Hotline | Treatment program info | 800-327-5050 |
| | Cambridge Health Alliance | Walk-ins Tue. 11:30; MA Health accepted | 617-591-6051 |
| | Caspar First Step Outreach | Assist in accessing detox. | 617-661-0600 |
| | Riverside Community Care | Outpatient; MA Health accepted | 617-623-3278 |
| | North Charles | Maintenance therapy; MA Health only | 617-661-5700 |
| | Column Health | Counseling, medication assisted treatment | 339-368-7696 |
| | Learn 2 Cope | Family support; Mon. 7 PM | 1575 Cambridge St, CAM |
| | Family Anonymous | Family support; Tue. 7 PM | 121 Washington St, MEF |
| Mental Health | Cambridge Health Alliance | Inpatient & outpatient services | Adults: 617-591-6033 Juveniles: 617-665-3458 |
| | BEST Team | Psychiatric emergency services; MA Health | 800-981-4357 |
| | Riverside – Child Guidance Center | Juvenile/family services | 617-354-2275 |
| | Neighborhood Counseling & Community Services | Counseling, skill & strength-based strategies | 781-600-6074 |
| Domestic Violence | RESPOND | Shelter, crisis hotline, services, education | Hotline: 617-623-5900 Services: 617-440-7267 |
| | Maureen Dipaolo, SPD Family Services | Victim Witness Advocacy | 617-625-1600 x 7279 |
| Sexual Assault | BARCC (Boston Area Rape Crisis Center) | Free legal consultation, counseling, and education for survivors and family members of survivors | Hotline: 800-841-8371 https://barcc.org |
| Additional Services | Cambridge Health Alliance Victims of Violence Program | Adult out-patient trauma clinic providing mental health services for crime victims | 617-591-6360 |
| | De Novo | Free civil legal assistance and affordable psychological counseling for low-income people | 617-661-1010 Denovo.org |

RECENT FLOODING

Richard E. Raiche, PE, PMP

Director of Infrastructure & Asset Management



Examples:



**Elmwood Street
July 17, 2019**



**Powder House Blvd
August 11, 2019**



**North Street
September 2, 2019**

Flooding is a Citywide Concern for:



Public Safety and Health



Property Damage



Combined Sewer Overflows
(CSOs)

Weather Events Linked to Flooding

Coastal Flooding



Storm surge

Such as NYC experienced during Hurricane Sandy

Precipitation-Based Flooding



Sustained rains

Long duration storms

How systems were designed



Snow melts

Ice and snow can block
catch basins

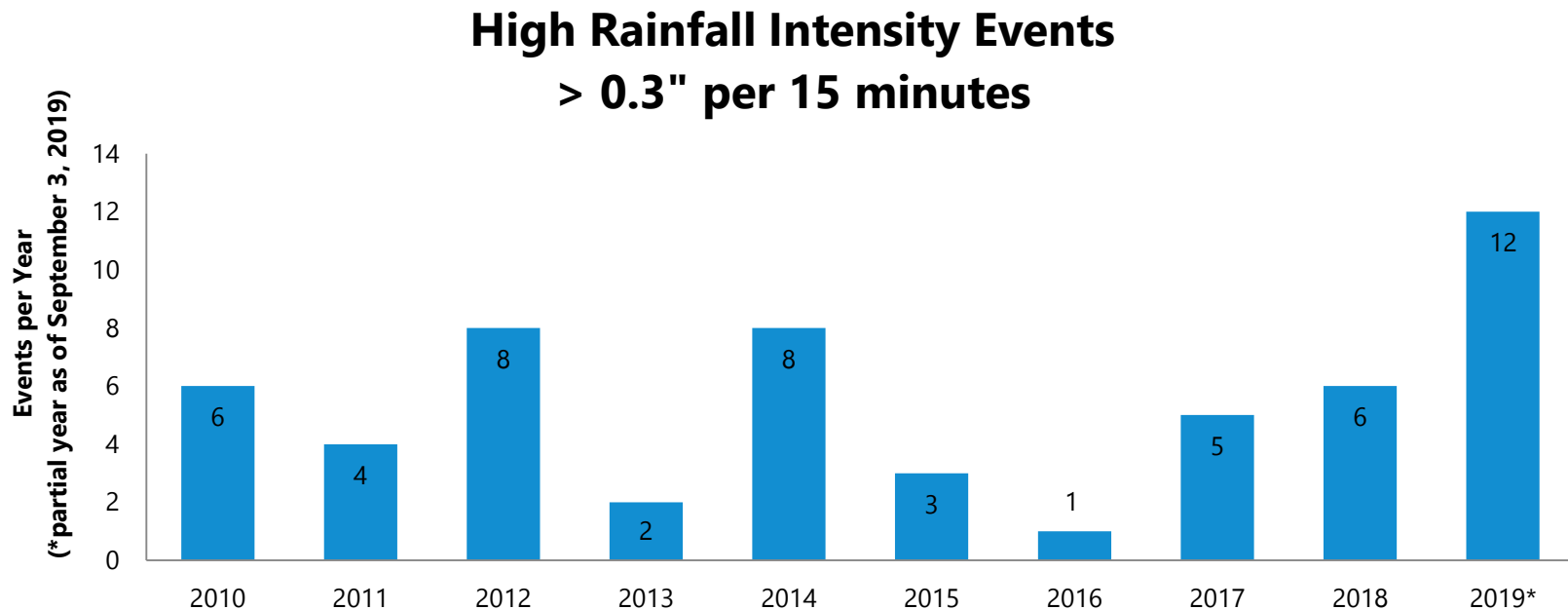


Short bursts of intense rain

*Increasingly common, and very
problematic for our system*

We've Seen More Events of High Rainfall Intensity in 2019

Climate change is expected to increase rainfall intensity over time.



Data source: United States Geological Survey, collected at Fresh Pond in Cambridge, MA

City Response

- During Flood Events
 - Sewer dispatches crew(s) to respond to constituent reports of active flooding
 - Crew assesses basin and system condition
 - Crew disperses flood where possible
- After Flood Events
 - Engineering receives email reports to inform long-term system improvement plans

Problems are Deeper than Emergency Response



Pipe Capacity and Development Density

Limited space for the rainfall to travel



Pipe Condition

Pipe breaks and debris inhibit flow



Climate Change

Increased precipitation, storm surge intensity, and sea level rise will affect the Northeast



Geography

Some areas of the City are more prone to flooding due to elevation



Catch Basin Condition

Without regular cleaning and maintenance, flow can't reach pipes

Path to Long-Term Fixes

Starting point
2018

Study/prioritize
2019

Design/build
2019 +

| Project | CIP Cost Estimate (FY19-FY28) | Project | CIP Cost Estimate (FY19-FY28) | Project | CIP Cost Estimate (FY19-FY28) |
|--|---|--|---|---|--|
| Somerville Ave. Utility & Streetscape Improvement | \$39.07M Sewer Enterprise (USQ DIF) + MassWorks | Sewer System Evaluation Study and Asset Management Plan | \$10.35M Sewer Enterprise | Poplar St. Stormwater Pump Station | \$21.37M Sewer Enterprise (USQ DIF) |
| | | Hydraulic Modeling and System Improvement Analysis | \$1M Sewer Enterprise (Annual OM) | Spring Hill Sewer Separation | \$14.18M Sewer Enterprise (USQ DIF) |
| | | | | Sewer Separation Projects (3) | \$50.82M Sewer Enterprise, MWRA, I/I |

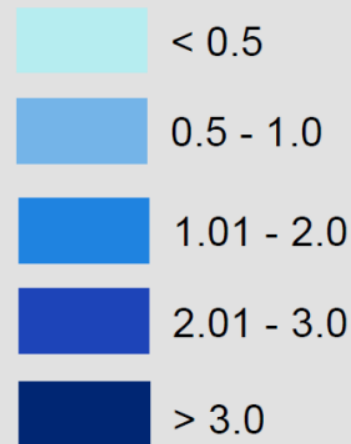
Please note that dollar amounts are for FY19 CIP spending forward. These do not include prior year spending.

Flood Mapping - Ward 7

(100y, 2070, REC, SLR100y2070)



Flood Depth (ft)



City Limit

Water Bodies

In the meantime...

- Flood risk communication



THANK YOU

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